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Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 79 and 80 without prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in this or a related application.

Please amend claims 81-83 and 89 under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121, as set forth in the Federal Register on June 30, 2003 as follows:

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Claims 1-78 (Canceled)

79. (Canceled) ~~An isolated nucleic acid comprising nucleotides having a sequence which encodes an Activator of G Protein Signaling ("AGS") protein which comprises amino acids having a sequence which is at least 98% homologous to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.~~
80. (Canceled) ~~The isolated nucleic acid of claim 79, wherein the protein comprises amino acids having a sequence which is at least 99% homologous to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.~~
81. (Currently Amended) The An isolated nucleic acid comprising nucleotides having a sequence which encodes an Activator of G Protein Signaling ("AGS") protein which comprises of claim 79, ~~which encodes a protein comprising amino acids having a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.~~
82. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 79 81, wherein said protein activates G protein-coupled signal transduction in a G protein-coupled receptor independent manner.
83. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 79 81, wherein said nucleic acid is a human nucleic acid.
84. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid comprising nucleotides having a sequence encoding the same AGS protein, which is encoded by the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3, or a full complement to the isolated nucleic acid.

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85. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, wherein the nucleotides have a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.
86. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, comprising nucleotides having a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.
87. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, which encodes a protein that activates G protein-coupled signal transduction in a G protein-coupled receptor independent manner.
88. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, which is a human nucleic acid molecule.
89. (Currently Amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim ~~79~~ 81.
90. (Previously Presented) The vector of claim 89, which is a recombinant expression vector.
91. (Previously Presented) A host cell containing the vector of claim 89.
92. (Previously Presented) A method for producing an AGS protein comprising culturing the host cell of claim 91 in a suitable medium such that AGS protein is produced.
93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 92, further comprising isolating an AGS protein from the medium of the host cell.

81. An isolated nucleic acid comprising nucleotides having a sequence which encodes an Activator of G Protein Signaling ("AGS") protein which comprises amino acids having a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
82. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 81, wherein said protein activates G protein-coupled signal transduction in a G protein-coupled receptor independent manner.
83. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 81, wherein said nucleic acid is a human nucleic acid.
84. An isolated nucleic acid comprising nucleotides having a sequence encoding the same AGS protein, which is encoded by the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3, or a full complement to the isolated nucleic acid.
85. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, wherein the nucleotides have a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.
86. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, comprising nucleotides having a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.
87. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, which encodes a protein that activates G protein-coupled signal transduction in a G protein-coupled receptor independent manner.
88. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, which is a human nucleic acid molecule.
89. A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 81.

90. The vector of claim 89, which is a recombinant expression vector.
91. A host cell containing the vector of claim 89.
92. A method for producing an AGS protein comprising culturing the host cell of claim 91 in a suitable medium such that AGS protein is produced.
93. The method of claim 92, further comprising isolating an AGS protein from the medium of the host cell.